

Message Text

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22

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 SSM-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 MC-02 /117 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MVANORDER:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFOL

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

SSM - MS. GREEN

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

AF/P - MR. POPE

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

----- 018720

R 012206Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USMISSION SINAI
CINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 105605

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 29

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR APRIL 29,
1976:

Q. HAS AMBASSADOR BROWN GONE BACK TO LEBANON?

A. HE HAS NOT, NO. WE STILL HOPE THAT HE WILL BE GOING
BACK IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. WE CANNOT GIVE YOU A PRECISE
DATE.

Q. HE WON'T BE GOING BACK TONIGHT?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW HE WON'T BE, NO.

Q. ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO SHARE WITH US ANY OF HIS
ASSESSMENTS OF THE SITUATION?

A. I HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED ON WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL BE
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GIVING YOU A BRIEFING ON THAT SUBJECT, EITHER SOMEONE IN
OUR OFFICE OR SOMEONE FROM NEA. I WILL KIND OUT.

AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, I THINK THERE WILL NOT BE ANY FORMAL

PRESS CONFERENCE BY AMBASSADOR BROWN. BUT I WILL CHECK
INTO WHETHER OR NOT THERE WILL BE SOME SORT OF
INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE ON THE RESULTS OF HIS CONSULTA-

TION HERE.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHEN AMBASSADOR MELOY PLANS TO LEAVE?

A. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT HE WILL BE LEAVING SOME TIME IN THE FIRST PART OF MAY. THE PRECISE DATE I DO NOT KNOW, BUT I THINK YOU COULD --

Q. DOESN'T HE HAVE TO GO BACK TO GUATEMALA FIRST?

A. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT HE WILL GO BACK TO GUATEMALA BRIEFLY, YES.

Q. WHEN DO YOU EXPECT HIM TO BE IN LEBANON?

A. AS I SAY, SOME TIME, LET'S SAY, IN THE FIRST HALF OF MAY. I CANNOT BE MORE PRECISE THAN THAT.

Q. WILL BROWN THEN LEAVE BEIRUT?

A. YES.

Q. HAVE YOU RESOLVED YET THE PROBLEM OF FINANCING THE HAWK MISSILES TO JORDAN?

A. NO, IT HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED. THERE IS NOT A GREAT DEAL THAT I CAN ADD TO WHAT WE SAID LAST TIME ON THAT. THE LETTER OF OFFER IS STILL IN EFFECT.

THE CONTRACT -- I THINK WE POSTED AN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ON THIS -- THE CONTRACT WITH RAYTHEON IS STILL IN A HOLD STATUS, PENDING COMPLETION OF THESE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS; AND THESE ARE STILL UNDER WAY.

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Q. ISN'T A PAYMENT DUE BY THE END OF THE MONTH?

A. I DO NOT THINK IT IS FORMALLY DUE BY THE END OF THE MONTH- THE CONTRACT IS IN A STATE OF SUSPENSION AT THE MOMENT, AND SO I THINK WE CANNOT PUT A TIME EXPIRATION ON IT.

Q. DOES THE LETTER OF OFFER THAT YOU'RE REFERRING TO REFER ONLY TO THE FIRST PART OF THE INSTALLATION AND PURCHASE? IN OTHER WORDS, IT DOESN'T INCLUDE ALL THE RED EYES, VULCANS AND CONNECTED MATERIAL?

A. I DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT. I WILL FIND OUT FOR YOU, THOUGH. I AM NOT SURE WHAT IT COVERS, FRANKLY.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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